

HUNTING BIG GAME IN EAST AFRICA

(Continued from First Page.)

has shown himself one of the gamest sportsmen who has ever come to British East Africa. At one place he killed two bull elephants, and then nearly lost his life by shooting an elephant cow as she rushed upon him. The cow dropped dead as the ball struck her, and Pizzardi fell backward just in time to avoid being crushed. Among other continental sportsmen who have been here recently were the Counts C. and E. Hoyo, Podiatzky and Marchetti. Count Hoyo bagged sixty-six head of big game, comprising twenty-one varieties, and among them two elephants, three lions and a giraffe. His brother killed sixty-nine head, including a lion and an elephant, and Count Podiatzky did almost as well as to number, bagging one lion and two rhinoceroses.

Big Game That May Be Shot.

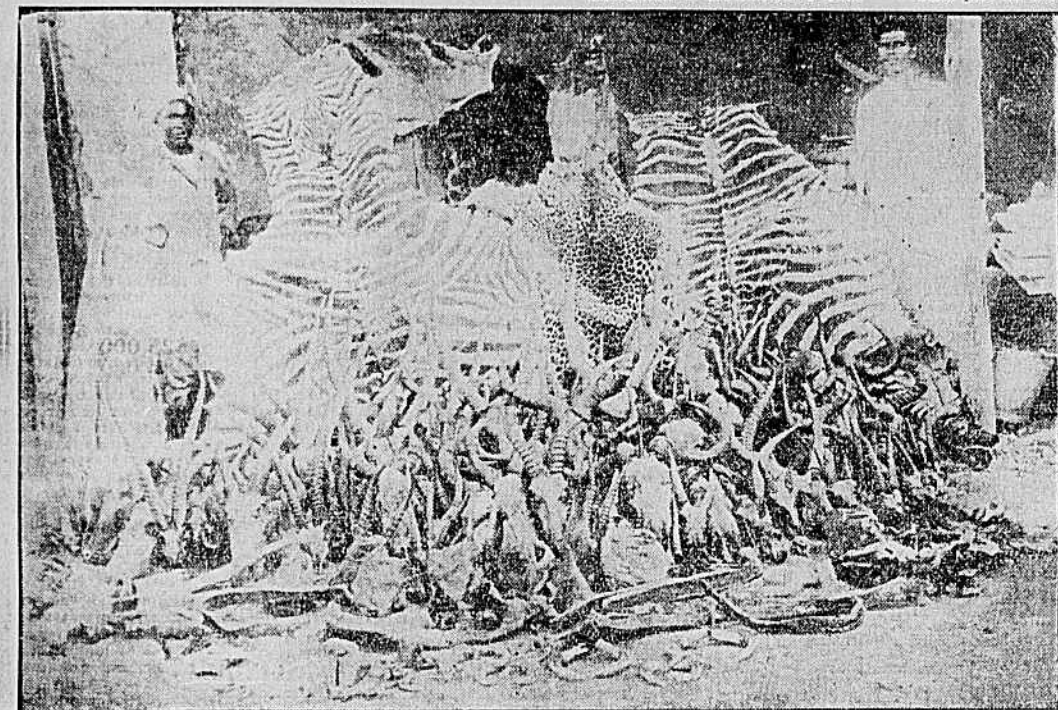
The hunting laws here are rigid. No one can shoot without a license, and the man who kills young elephants, cow elephants or baby giraffes will pay a big fine and spend a long term in jail. The right to shoot big game is regulated by license, and for this every sportsman must pay £50, or \$250, a season. So many licenses have been taken out this year that the revenue therefrom has been \$50,000, and such receipts are increasing from year to year.

These licenses give the sportsman the right to kill several hundred of

RESULTS OF HUNTING BIG GAME IN EAST AFRICA



ELEPHANT HUNTING PAYS. This pile of ivory is worth \$50,000.



"I CAN SEE PILES OF TUSKS, HEADS AND HORNS."

the gamest animals that have ever been seen in the jungles of the plains. He must kill two elephants, two rhinoceroses, two hippopotami and two zebras, as well as six rare antelopes and gazelles. The law allows him two monkeys of the Colobus species and two smaller monkeys. He must shoot two ostriches, two marabous and two aligators, and various antelopes and gazelles of different species to the number of ten. He can kill ten wild pigs, ten wildcats, ten jackals, two cheetahs and two aard wolves. As to lions, leopards and crocodiles, no license is required to shoot them, and although the game laws are so great as to throw all the "Teddy bears" of the United States into the shade.

Plenty of Wild Ostriches.

In hunting out here the variety of animals is so many that there is no need of chasing through the swamps nor tramping about over the plains for days before one gets a shot. One often sees a dozen different kinds of animals at the same time, and can change his sport from day to day. The sportsman will find antelopes almost everywhere, and will not infrequently be in sight of an ostrich or so. These birds are big game, and are hunted largely by the natives. They are very speedy, and it may be best to wait where they do not poke their heads down in the sand and wait for the hunter to come. On the other hand, they spread out their wings and go off on the trot, swimming as it were over the ground. They can run faster than a horse, but they run in large circles, and the hunter catches them by cutting across the area of the circles or running around in smaller circles inside. It is a great thing here to shoot a cock ostrich, in order that you may give your steed a bit of the beautiful white feathers, which are found on the wings of the male bird.

Zebras Easy to Kill.

And then there is the zebra! That animal whose black and white stripes shine out so plainly in this African sun. It is to be seen by the thousands on the Athi plains, and he is found not far from the railroad all the way from Voi to Uganda—a distance greater than from New York to Pittsburgh. Had it not been against the law I could have ridden through on my revolver as I rode through on the cars. The zebra is a different animal when found far from the railroad, but on the whole he is easy to kill. He seems to have discovered that he will not be shot on the great game reservations which extend for one mile on each side of the Uganda track. Away from them he will run like a deer, and as zebras usually go in droves the excitement of following him over the plain is intense. Zebra skins tanned with the hide on are fine trophies, and I am told that zebra steak is excellent eating. The flesh tastes like beef, with a flavor of game. The animals are so beautiful, however, and so much like a horse that only a brute would kill them for sport.

Elephant Hunting Pays.

In hunting elephants many a sportsman makes enough to pay a good share of his African expenses. He can shoot only two elephant bulls, but if he gets good ones their tusks taken together may sell for \$1,500 or \$2,000. The African elephants have the largest tusks of their kind. I have seen some which weighed 150 pounds each, and tusks have been taken which weigh up to 200 pounds. African ivory is the best, and it brings the highest prices. It is difficult to get the tusks out. The porters may be half a day chopping away the meat, and it will take about four men to carry a tusk of the size I have mentioned. There are men here who hunt elephants for their ivory, but the most of the licenses are taken out by sportsmen. The animals are so beautiful, however, and so much like a horse that only a brute would kill them for sport.

How to Shoot Elephants.

One of the best places to shoot an elephant is through the eye or half-way between the ear and the eye. Another good shot is just back of the flap of the ear, and a third is in a place on one side of the tail, so that

the ball will run along the spine and into the lungs. Large bullets and heavy guns are used. It is exceedingly dangerous to shoot when the animal is close and not kill him. The elephant, when injured, is very revengeful. He will throw his trunk into the air, scream, hiss and snort, and rush after the hunter, knocking him down with a blow of his trunk and charge upon him with his great tusks. If the man falls, the great beast is liable to kneel upon him and crush him to a jelly.

One of the difficulties of elephant hunting is that it is not easy to distinguish the animals in the woods, as they are of much the same color as the trees. A traveler here tells me that he once almost walked into a big elephant while going through the forest. He was stooping down and looking strait before him when he saw the elephant's legs and took them for tree trunks. The average elephants of this region can easily make six miles an hour while on the march. They usually travel in herds, the young and old moving along together. The animals can swim, notwithstanding their enormous weight, and they can easily cross the largest rivers by using trunks. The average elephants of this region can easily make six miles an hour while on the march. They usually travel in herds, the young and old moving along together. The animals can swim, notwithstanding their enormous weight, and they can easily cross the largest rivers by using trunks. The average elephants of this region can easily make six miles an hour while on the march. They usually travel in herds, the young and old moving along together. The animals can swim, notwithstanding their enormous weight, and they can easily cross the largest rivers by using trunks.

Hippopotami and Rhinoceroses.

As to hippos and rhinos, there are plenty of them still left along the streams and about the great lakes of the tropical parts of the continent. There are rhinoceroses almost everywhere in the woods between Nairobi and Uganda. I have seen a number of hippos, and were I a hunter, which I am not, I could, I venture, bag enough for all the hunt clubs of Virginia. The settlers tell me the animals come in and root up their gardens, and that it is almost impossible to fence against them.

Both rhinos and hippos are hard to kill. Rhinos has a skin about half an inch thick, and there are only a few places upon them where a ball will get through. Hippos can be hunted in boats on the lakes, but they swim rapidly and dive deep, remaining under the surface a long time. They move along through the water, showing only their ears and nose. They are wary, and it is difficult to get a shot at just the right place. One of the best points at which to aim is under the eye or back of the head between the ears. These animals are sometimes harpooned, but such hunting is dangerous, as they are liable to crush one's boat.

The rhinos have also to be approached very carefully. They have keen senses of hearing and smell, although they cannot see to any great distance. Hippos are usually hunted on foot, and one must be careful to get on the windward side of them. They do not hesitate to charge their enemies, and the great horn which each has on its nose is a terrible weapon, enabling it to kill a horse at a blow. The most of these beasts are black, but now and then a white one is found. I met a man the other day who claimed to have killed a white rhinoceros.

What It Costs to Hunt.

Since I have been in Africa I have received a number of letters from American sportsmen asking the cost of shooting big game in this part of the world. The question is hard to answer. It is dependent on the man and to some extent on the bargains he makes. There are business firms here in Mombasa who make a specialty of outfitting hunting parties, and who will fix all arrangements as to guides, food and porters, somewhat after the same plan as Cook does for travelers.

The prices, in such cases, depend upon the length and character of the tour and the size of the party. There is a young American here now, whose mother calls him "Dodo," who paid \$500 for a three days' hunt for lions; and this did not necessitate a license, as lions are on the free list. The young man tramped about with his porters through the tall grass, and was given a shot or so at two lions, both of which he missed. Had he tried for big game he would have cost him \$250 more.

On a long hunt the expenses of all kinds can be considerably reduced, and I should think that \$10 a day for each sportsman in the party would be a fair estimate. I am told that a man can be fitted out with porters, gun-bearers and personal servants for \$250 a month. One can get a good cook for from \$5 to \$8 a month, a gun-bearer for about \$10, and a personal servant for from \$5 to \$10. The license for big game in all cases costs \$250. The traveling expenses from New York to British East Africa direct are about \$200.

Food When on Safari.

As to provisions for the trip, this depends much upon the tastes of the individual sportsman. There are native villages almost everywhere at which some fresh food can be bought at cheap rates. Chickens are plentiful at 8 cents a pound, and meats cost the same. In the streams and lakes there are fish, the sportsman can catch and supply plenty of game, and one need never suffer for the want of antelope or zebra steak.

As to the other food, it should be packed up in boxes, six to a box, each, and in case the outfit is prepared here, each box will have sufficient for one man's requirements for one week. The most of the stuff is in tins, and it usually includes plenty of Chicago canned beef, Canadian ham and London biscuits, jams and marmalades. Such boxes are labeled with numbers. No. 1 containing the first week's supply, No. 2 the second week's, and so on. Each box weighs just sixty, as no more than that can be carried on the head of one porter.

Some Outfitting Suggestions.

I would advise the American sportsman who intends coming out here to shoot to stop off on the way in England and get much of his supplies there. There are London firms who make a specialty of outfitting for African travel and for hunting expeditions. One should have double-roofed tents, and the square tents are the better. It will be well to bring a mackintosh or rubber blanket, one foot wider all around than the floor of the tent, for many of the camps may be soggy and marshy. One should also have a folding bedstead, a cork bed and warm blankets, and a folding chair and table will not be amiss. (Copyright, 1908, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

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